

Appl. No. 10/669,910
Amdt. Dated April 5, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 6, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A disposable body fluid absorbent pad comprising:

a top surface facing a wearer's body; ~~body~~,

a back surface facing away from said wearer's body; and

a liquid-absorbent core interposed between said top and back surfaces and ~~being contoured by~~
having longitudinally opposite end margins margin portions extending in a transverse direction and and
defining peripheral longitudinal edge portions of the liquid-absorbent core and transversely opposite
side edge ~~margins~~ margin portions extending in a longitudinal direction and defining peripheral
transverse edge portions of the liquid-absorbent core; ~~being relatively large in said longitudinal~~
~~direction, said disposable body fluid absorbent pad further comprising: said pad having~~

a front region destined to cover a wearer's belly; ~~belly~~,

a rear region destined to cover a wearer's hip; and

an intermediate region destined to cover a wearer's crotch when said pad is put on said
wearer's body; and body; ~~said pad including~~

Appl. No. 10/669,910
Amdt. Dated April 5, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 6, 2006

a strap ~~adapted to pull~~ extending longitudinally outward from the front region for pulling said pad in said longitudinal direction, and said strap having inner fixed portions lying on and extending along a length of said side edge margin portions ~~margins~~ and secured to said pad on a surface facing said wearer's body and a hand-grip extending between said inner fixed portions.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): The pad according to claim 1, wherein said strap comprises:

a first strap attached to one of said side edge margin portions ~~margins~~ so as to extend outward from said end margin of said front region in said longitudinal direction; and

a second strap is attached to said other side edge margin portion so as to extend outward from said end margin of said front region in said longitudinal direction,

said first strap having an inner fixed portion lying on one of said side edge margin portions ~~margins~~ and secured to said pad on said surface facing said wearer's body, an outer fixed portion lying on said other side edge margin portion and secured to said pad on said surface facing away from said wearer's body and a hand-grip extending between said inner fixed portion and said outer fixed portion and,

said second strap having an inner fixed portion lying on said other side edge margin portion and secured to said pad on said surface facing said wearer's body, an outer fixed portion lying on said other side edge margin portion and secured to said pad on said surface facing away from said wearer's body and a hand-grip extending between said inner fixed portion and said outer fixed portion.

Appl. No. 10/669,910
Amdt. Dated April 5, 2006
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Claim 3 (Currently amended): The pad according to claim 2, 1, wherein said inner fixed portions of said straps extend from said end margin of said front region toward said end margin of said rear region along said side edge margins.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): The pad according to claim 3, further comprising ~~wherein~~ elastic members extending ~~in said side edge margins of said pad in said longitudinal direction are attached to the front, rear and intermediate regions,~~ at least ~~to~~ in said intermediate region of said side margin portions of said pad so that said elastic members are contractible in said longitudinal direction and said inner fixed portions of said straps ~~shrink~~ contract in said longitudinal direction as said elastic members contract.

Claim 5 (Original): The pad according to claim 3, wherein said straps are elastically stretchable and said inner fixed portions of said straps are secured to said pad on said surface facing said wearer's body so that said inner fixed portions are contractible.

Claim 6 (Currently amended): The pad according to claim 1, wherein said top surface comprises a liquid-pervious topsheet and said back surfaces are defined by a liquid-pervious topsheet and surface comprises a liquid-impervious backsheet, backsheet, respectively.

Appl. No. 10/669,910
Amtd. Dated April 5, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 6, 2006

Claim 7 (Currently amended): The pad according to claim 1, wherein a thickness dimension of said core between said top and back surfaces as measured in said intermediate region is smaller than a thickness ~~that of~~ as measured in said front and rear regions.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): The pad according to claim 1, wherein a transverse dimension of said core between the side edge margins as measured in said intermediate region is smaller than a transverse dimension ~~that of a~~ measured in said front and rear regions.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): The pad according to claim 1, wherein said pad is provided in said rear region with a tape fastener having a proximal end fixed to said pad on said surface facing away from said wearer's body in said rear region and a distal end extending outward from said end margin of said rear region in said longitudinal direction and configured ~~adapted~~ to be releasably attached to said pad on said surface facing away from said wearer's body.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): The pad according to claim 8, wherein said intermediate region of said pad is folded in said longitudinal direction with said ~~topsheet~~ top surface inside so that said front and rear regions may be placed upon each other and ~~then~~ said distal end of said tape fastener is releasably attached to said pad on said surface facing away from said wearer's body in said front region so as to maintain said pad in a folded state.